

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 3, line 27 and ending at page 4, line 1 to read, as follows.

--Figure 4 is a front view in which the [[te]] shutter is expanded by a wedging member.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 4, line 11 and ending at page 4, line 17 to read, as follows.

--Figure 8 is a sectional view of a developer supply container according to another embodiment wherein the shutter members are overlapped, in the shown state, the shutter is opening.

Figure 9 is a sectional view of the developer supply container in the [[said]] another embodiment, wherein the shutter is closing.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 5, line 9 and ending at page 5, line 26 to read, as follows.

--The description will be made as to the general arrangement and the functions of the image forming apparatus 1. An original 101 is placed on an original supporting platen glass 102 by an operator. A light image of the original is formed on a photosensitive drum 104 (image bearing member) by a plurality of mirrors and a lens of an optical portion 103. By the photosensitive drum being exposed to the light image, an electrostatic image is formed on the photosensitive drum, and the electrostatic image is developed with a developer by a developing device 201. On [[201.On]] the other hand, recording materials P, such as sheets of paper, OHP

sheet as or the like, are stacked in feeding cassettes 105 -108. One ~~cassette 105 - s 108~~. One the recording materials selected at an operating portion (unshown) by the operator is fed out. A roller of roller 105A - 108A ~~roller 105A - s 108A~~ corresponding to the feeding cassette selected sheet is rotated.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 17 and ending at page 8, line 3 to read, as follows.

--In the image forming apparatus 1 of such a structure, there are provided around the photosensitive drum 104 a developing station 201, cleaning means 202 and primary charging means 203. The developing station 201 functions to develop the electrostatic latent image formed on the photosensitive drum 104 using toner (developer). A developer supply container 4 for supplying the corner into the developing station 201 is detachably mountable to the main assembly 124 of the apparatus. The developer may be a one-component developer comprising only toner or a two component developer comprising toner and carrier particles. The present invention is applicable to both developers, either of the cases--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 8, line 13 and ending at page 8, line 18 to read, as follows.

--The charging means 203 functions to electrically charge charged the photosensitive drum 104. The cleaning means 202 functions to remove residual toner remaining on the photosensitive drum 104. The developer is gradually supplied from a developer supply apparatus 100.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 10, line 15 and ending at page 13, line 16 to read, as follows.

--The developer supply container 4 contains the developer, and when the center portion rotation shaft 5 is set in place relative to the coupling member 6 in the image forming apparatus, the rotation shaft 5 receives a rotating force from an unshown rotation transmitting mechanism so that stirring sheets 7 mounted on the rotation shaft 5 are rotated, by which the developer is gradually supplied into the developing station 201 through the developer supply opening 8. The shutters 10, 11 of the developer supply container 4 are urged in directions of abutting each other to close the developer supply opening 8 with the aid of sealing materials 16, 17, by spring 14 (urging means). The spring may be replaced with another known means which is capable of performing the similar function. In this example, the shutters 10, 11 are abutted to each other to close the developer supply opening 8 at a position facing to the developer supply opening 8. With this structure, the developer shoved by the closing operation of the shutters 10, 11 fall down into a developer receiving port provided in the main assembly of the apparatus, so that contamination of the outer surface of the container with the developer and/or the outer surface of the main assembly of the apparatus as with the conventional structure can be avoided.

Referring to Figure 1 to Figure 5, the operation of the developer supply container 4 will be described. The developer supply container 4 is inserted insertion into the main assembly of the apparatus. More particularly, the container is inserted in the direction indicated by an arrow B in Figures 3 and 4. Then, a free end of an engaging or guiding member 12 (wedge) functioning as an inducing means disposed above the developing station 201 in the main assembly of the apparatus is contacted by engaging portions of the shutters 10, 11 which are urged toward each

other. With the continued inserted of the developer supply container 4 into the main assembly of the apparatus, the developer supply container 4 is set in place. In this state, the shutter 10 and the shutter 11 are spaced apart from each other by the wedging member 12, and simultaneously, so that sealing members 16, 17 are spaced from each other, by which the developer supply opening operation is completed. In this state, the rotation shaft 5 is rotated by the driving force received from the main assembly of the apparatus, and the stirring sheet 7 is driven thereby. The developer stirred by the stirring sheet 7 are discharged through the developer supply opening 8, and is received by the [[th]] developer receiving port provided in the apparatus and is supplied into the developing station 201. With this structure, as described hereinbefore, the shutters 10, 11 can be actuated to open and close the opening in interrelation with the setting and removing operations of the developer supply container relative to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus, and therefore, the usability is high.

When the developer in the developer supply container 4 is used up, or when a maintenance operation is required, the developer supply container 4 is pulled out in the direction opposite to the direction indicated by the arrow B, by which the urging of the shutters 10, 11 by the wedging member 12 in the opening directions is gradually reduced until the shutters 10, 11 are disengaged from the engaging member 12. When the exchange or removal of the developer supply container 4 is completed, the shutters 10, 11 kept urged by the spring 14 return to the original positions where the developer supply opening 8 is resealed by the sealing material 15, the shutters 10, 11 and the sealing materials 16, 17. The length of the developer receiving port of the main assembly measured in the direction B is properly [[y]] set such that developer deposition on the edge of the developer supply opening and the like (the edge of the sealing

material 15 and the like) falls into the developer receiving port until the closing operation of the shutters 10, 11 is completed. A part of the developer deposition on the edge of the developer supply opening and the like returns into the container with the closing operation of the shutters 10, 11.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 14, line 14 and ending at page 15, line 4 to read, as follows.

--When the developer supply container 4 is removed from the main assembly of the apparatus, the shutters 10, 11, the shutter constituted by a plurality of shutter members 10 and 11 (sealing members 16, 17) is closed so as to move [[moves]] the developer [[to]] substantially toward a center portion of the developer supply opening 8, and therefore, the developer supply opening 8, and therefore, the developer does not contaminate the outer wall of the developer supply container 4 other than the center portion of the developer supply opening 8 or a neighborhood of the developing station 201 of the main assembly of the image forming apparatus. By the provision [[n]] of the stopping member 13, the shutters 10, 11 (sealing materials 16, 17) can be assuredly maintained in the closed state except when the container is set in place in the apparatus, and therefore, the contamination of the developing station 201 is further prevented.--

Please amend the paragraphs starting at page 16, line 2 and ending at page 16, line 16 to read, as follows.

--In this embodiment, engaging portions of the shutter members 18 and 19 are engaged by a free end portion of the triangular wedging or engaging member 12 upon unsealing. In order to accomplish easy engagement between the free end portion and the engaging portions of the edging member 12, the shutter members are not overlapped at the engaging portions. Therefore, ~~therefore~~, the engaging portions are disposed at a position away from the developer supply opening in the mounting direction (direction B in Figure 4.

The other structures including the opening and closing operations are similar to those of the foregoing embodiment, and therefore, [[the]] detailed descriptions thereof are omitted for simplicity.--